ego o Pass a law compelling steamboats to use iron the rest to have their boilers inspected, to carry the rest to have their boilers inspected, to carry the rest to the rest of such coercion.

I are sent circulars to all the corporations in the I are sent circulars to all the corporations in the Units explaining fully and clearly the nature and the coercion of this invention. They can satisfy themselves of its truth of what I claim without cost to themselves of its truth of what I claim without cost to themselves of its truth of what I claim without cost to themselves of its truth of what I claim without cost to themselves. But do not get any orders. I doubt not I should be really benefited by the immediate adoption of this rest to be done its convinced of the necessity of bringing some outsinfluence to bear, and that influence should be the pair of the rest of the rest of the pair of the rest asy: Travel everywhere and show up your inven-et I am not able to do that; I have others de ding on my daily labor. Or, shall I patiently wait imy device is called for? This I can well afford to ding of my dany labor. Or, shall I patiently wait on the patient wait of the best then, if my invention is what I believe it to be, the public should enjoy the benefit of it at once, there should be no delay about it. The cost, compared with its value, is as a mill to a dollar. Let me remark, in esclusion, that I am not ambitious to appear before the sabile with any high-sounding title attached to a crust, undeveloped, or impractically invention, such as ge—by some management which I have not yet leasted—often discussed in the newspapers. On the course, my invention was completed four years ago, and it was a profound secret, even from my own family, for spward of two years. It was not made public until after it had been fully tested in private; and it is now offered as a perfect machine. I send you herewith a descriptive circular, and the names of some gentlemen to shom I am permitted to refer. I have a contract with one company for the use of my machines, after a test's trial of them. It was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined the livestice that it was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined that the properties that it was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined the inventor that it was not for want of confined to the inventor that it was not for want of confined to the properties of the second that the properties of the second that the second that the second the second that the second that the second the second that the second t to them I am of the use of my machines, after a war strial of them. It was not for want of confidence in the invention that it was not made sooner, but the confidence in the invention that it was not made sooner, but the confidence of means.

WINTER TO THE POOR.

for want of means.

7. as Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Siz: Most of your readers who are in comfortable ecumutances can have lettle idea of the sufferings of the poor in such weather as this. Probably 30,000 pople depend for their fuel on cinders picked up in street, whose supply is almost entirely cut of by this storm. Their very out-door business, specutting, digging, quarrying, building and th ile, is interrupted now. All the street trades, too, re-picking, bone-gathering, swill, and ash-collecting, a shnoot destroyed by the snow—so that the bitter ced and storm come on people out of their usual esployment, and with little protection against the wather. The consequences have been very painful. We go from house to house where there is no fuel of fire, and where children are kept in bed to save nem from cold. Workingmen, with strong and willing hands, sit by the cheerless chimney-side, who have ried in vain for weeks for employment. We see children half-naked, without shoes even in this weather, and mangry and weak, with little to eat. Before this coldest of the interval of the control of the control of the little of the little of all, as houses you will find people sleeping on the floor, he have pawned bed and bedstend. And, and est of all, as the poor grow more wretched, forgetfulness or plessure is sought in the cup of drunkenness, and these who are half-starving will often buy flquor rather thm bread. It is the children who really suffer most in his, and yet for them it is the most satisfaction to de something.

Our citizens are neglectful of the poor this Winter. Too much charity last season has sickened many of the subject. Neither the Alms-House nor the Com-All the street trades, too,

Too much charity last season has sickened many of the subject. Neither the Alms-House nor the Com-missioners of Emigration, nor the "Association for the "Rélief of the Poor" are doing their full work this Winter—perhaps none of them have the means. People might do much individually in employing the

poor. Little jobs, such as shoveling snow or coal, or seving or washing or scrubbing would be of incalculable benefit now to laboring men and women. No lady of means, in such times as these, should economize by seving herself—the best of charity is the chance given towork. Let every man and woman who believes in the duty of aiding the unfortunate seek out now lone wretched family and help them to help them-

Woof course are ready to do our part, but the indiwe of course are feat to the part of the part of the permanent aid of the poor. Yet we have operanties for many immediate charities. Should larthing be sent us for these purposes, we beg that it object may be specified.

Children's Aid Society, Clinton Hall, Astor-place.

WEATHER IN MINNESOTA.

5. de Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Sur. I send you an account of the weather at Hast-zes. Minnesota Territory, for the menth of Dec., 1855.

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D. B. WAITE.

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS.

SCREASE OF BAPTISTS .- According to a work re certly issued, treating of the history, principles and precess of the Baptists, it appears that in 1792 there wa but one Baptist communicant in the United States to every fifty-six inhabitants, while in 1854 there was on to every thirty inhabitants, and the sect has more the one-quarter of the whole church accommodation ntry. The work referred to also notices the ordual decline of infant baptism, and says that more than twelve infants are born to one baptized by all doominations the country through.

THE LATE REV. DR. CHOULES .- A writer in a Bosto paper, in some obituary lines on the recent demise of this well-known preacher, says: "I have seen him "walking to his church smoking a cigar, which he threw away only at the entrance. One summer afternoon I entered late, much heated by my walk He made telegraphic signals from the pulpit to the occupant of a neighboring pew to hand me a fan-an set which, though it provoked a smile, was truly an set of Christian courtesy, and one which I gratefully sppreciated."

MACAULAY'S DESCRIPTION OF PENN, THE QUAKER RIFORMER. - Quakers have by this time become quite used to Mr. Macaulay's attacks upon them and their great founder. In the volume of his history just isued, the historian thus sketches Penn: At the time when his faculties were ripening, Episcopalians, Presbyerians, Independents, Baptists, were striving for matery, and were, in every corner of the realm, refring and reviling each other. He wandered from cogregation to congregation; he heard priests harangue against Puritans; he heard Puritans harangue agunst priests, and he in vain applied for spiritual duction and consolation to doctors of both parties. Ou jolly old clergyman of the Anglican Communion tolthim to smoke tobacco and sing psalms; another adjeed him to go and lose some blood. The young inquirer turned in disgust from these advisers to the Disenters, and found them also blind guides,

A THOUGHTFUL ACT OF BENEVOLENCE .- Dr. Lawrece, Editor of The Memoirs of Amos Lawrence, has appropriated the profits accruing to himself from the copyright of that work to various benevolent objects. mong others, he has given \$500 to the Young Men's Aristian Union, and \$500 to the Young Men's Christian Association. It was at the request of these Societies, n connection with others, that the memoir was first Published, and now, without seeking, they have their

MOHAMMEDAN REPROOF .- Abd-el-Kader, a Mohummedan Emir, new in Paris, has written a book to prote that Judaism, Christianity and Mchammedanare only one religion, differing merely in details. He says that if Mususlmans and Christians would behere him, they might agree, and treat each other as brethren. In this work also, the reverential Arab complains that Christian scholars are not in the habit I raising their minds toward God, the author of all things, as they ought; and administers a sharp rebuke, on this point, to men of science.

CARDINAL WISEMAN AND THE LAWYERS .- The great Catholic organ, The Tablet, reports progress in the affair of the indemnification of the Cardinal against the enormous expenses incurred in his late law suit with the Rev. Mr. Boyle-£2,167. Toward this

amount, the sum of £1.414 has already been raised. The case has been taken up with great spirit and general manimity by the clergy and laity, and, were the sum ten times as great, there would be no doubt of its

being mised. CLERICAL BRONCHITIS .- A physician writes communication to one of the religious journals, is which he attributes this disease to a non-use of the vocal organs on week-days and their double use on Sundays, to mental auxiety as to support, and to the use of tobacco. He recommends to the preacher to read aloud at least half an hour each day, to quit smoking and chewing; and on the membership he enjoins a more liberal support of the ministry as the only

Sensible way of curing the disease.

A LENGTHY SERMON.—The Rev. Dr. Beman Troy, N. Y., preached last Thanksgiving Day one of his characteristic sermons, occupying three hours, and holding his large audience entranced to the end. The topic of his discourse was the comparative influence of the Protestant and Catholic systems, founded on the text "By their fruits you shall know them."

LONG PASTORATES .- Within the past century the pastorates of only twenty-seven of the Boston clergymen who have died within that period, or who now survive, have exceeded twenty five years in length. The ministries are those of Mr Foxeraft, 52 years the Rev. Dr. Chauncey, 59, and Dr. Prothingham, 35, of the First Church; the Rev. Dr. Lathrep of the Sec ond Church, 48; Rev. Dr. Stillman, of the First Raptist Church, 42; the Rev. Dr. Sewall, 56, and the Rev. Dr. Eckley, 32, of the Old South; the Rev. Dr. Freeman, of the King's Chapel, 52; the Rev. S. Cosper, of the Brattle square Church, 37; the Rev. Dr. A. Eliot, 36; the Rev. Dr. J. Eliot, 34, and the Rev. Dr. Parkineon, 36, of the New North; the Rev. Mr. Checkley, 50, and the Rev. Dr. Young, 28, of the New South; and the others are the Rev. Messrs. Channing, Gannett, Byles, Pierpont, Parker, Gardiner, Baldwin, Streeter, Sharp, Ballou, Worcester, Barrett and Lowell-the latter having just completed the 50th year of his pastorate.

AUSTRIA AND ROME. - The new Concordat will set side no less than 21,000 Aulic decrees which have been issued at various times to complete or explain the application of the civil code in matters relating to the Roman Catholic Church.

A GEM FROM CHARLES KINGSLEY. - Says Kingsley 'Did you ever remark, my friends, that the Bible says hardly anything about religion-that it never praises religious people? This is very curious. Would o God we would all remember it! The Bible speaks of a religious man only once, and of religion only twice, except where it speaks of the Jews' religion, to condemn it, and shows what an empty, blind, use less thing it was. What does this Bible talk of, then It talks of God;—not of religion, but of God. It tells us not to be religious, but to be godly. If Jesus Christ come to you in the shape of a poor man whom nobedy knew, should you know him?

THEOLOGICAL RAFFLING.—A venerable and werthy Roman Catholic priest of Dublin, the Very Rev. Dr. Yore, has given his theological library of over two thousand volumes, to be raffled for the support of a charitable institution for the deaf and dumb.

THE PLACARD BIBLE .- The British Banner states that a proposal has been set on foot for posting placards all over the city containing passages from the Bible, printed in the largest characters, so as to attract attention. Each placard to contain only one verse, and sometimes only one sentence; and to be renewed as frequently as the funds obtained will permit. A society is to be organized for carrying out

THE MARQUESAN MISSION.-The Rev. Mr. Mills, who came to this country about two years ago, with his wife, to obtain missionaries to go to the Marquesas Islands, and who started on his return last August with the Rev. Mr. Seymour and wife, has, it is reported, pursued such a course since the death of his wife in California, as to destroy all confidence in him by the American Missionary Association, and they have refused to allow their missionaries to proceed any further in his company. The hope of establish ing a mission on the Islands is not abandoned, but the missionaries have been advised to visit other parts of that ocean, whence they can explore the Mar-

quesas Islands. ANDOVER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY .- By the cats logue of this institution, just published, it appears that there are in the three classes 96 students; of these, 6 are graduates of Harvard College, 13 of Yale, 24 of Dartmouth, 14 of Williams, 11 of Amherst, and 7 of Brown University.

REFORMED CHURCH OF FRANCE.—The Reformed

Church of France has 106 consistories; over 800 pas tors and places of worship; 300 schools, attended by 12,000 children, beside normal and other advanced schools; and a theological college, having 7 professors and 50 students. About as many more students for the ministry study at Genoa.

ECCLESIASTICAL DECISION .- An important decision has recently been given in the English Ecclesiastical Court, in the case of Westerton against Liddell. The Rev. Mr. Liddell is a "Puscyite," and has adorned his altar with candlesticks, his church with flowers, pictures, and a large cross, and has erected a credence table, and uses handsomely decorated and various colored cloths for the altar, all of which gave offense to Mr. Westerton, the churchwarden, who, having with out effect applied to the Bishop of London, appealed to the Consistory Court. The decision occupied several hours in the delivery, and takes up several columns in The Times; and is to the effect that the crosses and candlesticks are to be removed, the credence table to be substituted by one movable and of wood, and the various colored cloths to be changed for one of pure white. An appeal against the decision has been lodged in the proper quarter, and if not raversed it is thought the decision will occasion a large

secession from the Church of England. SALARIES OF METHODIST MINISTERS.—The average alaries of New-England Methodist Preachers are found, on calculation, to be about \$600 a year.

DR. WAYLAND ON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES .- A series of articles has recently appeared in The Examiner, attributed to the Rev. Dr. Wayland, in which that distinguished divine takes occasion to express, as his opinion, that the present method of educating young men for the ministry, in the Baptist Church, is failure; and that no copying of the plans of the Andover Theological Seminary will meet the wants of the Baptist body. Dr. D. deals very severely with the practice of preaching from manuscript.

Morhoust Missions.—The Board of Managers of

the Missienary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being in a straitened condition, have made an appeal for prompt and liberal contributions. By a comparison of the receipts of 1854 with those of 1855, t appears that there is a falling off of over \$31,000 in 1855; and if this deficiency is not overcome during the general missionary committee year it will be necessary o curtail appropriations.

DESERTED SACRAMENTS .- The Southern Church man states that there are churches in the diocese of Virginia that are without a single male communicant.

FEMININE EXTRAVAGANCE. It is told somewhere in ancient history, and has

been somewhat ungallantly dug up and repeated in The Spectator by Addison-who, having but little manly force, was little leved by women-that some old father of the Church, soured perhaps by the compulsory isola tion of his lot, defined the gentler sex as Zwos pelosospor, which means in our Saxon tongue, an animal that rejoices in finery. We question, however, for ourelves, whether this passion is confined to the gentler sex, and whether, while men have, with their usual saucy self-esteem, been satirizing the extravagance and absurdity of female apparel, they have not outstripped them themselves in excess or caprice of fashion. Men have worn in their day just as much fine lace, jewelry, gold and embroidery, and such trumpery and tinsel, se did ever women. If women carry even now a little mirror steakhily in their fans, how many fashforable Counts are there who may be found in the ante-rooms at a reception with one slifty

concenled to their pockets? In these days, however, we are bound to admit that men cannot be accused of any over indulgence in extravagance in dress. With the exception of some vulgar snobs who plant in their shirt-breasts a plot paste which they joeularly call a diamond, not an arti-cle is left in man's wardrobe which can lend to him even a fictitious brilliancy for a moment. The stanchest Puritan could not have desired anything more horrible than men's modern costume.

But in women the instinct of dress, and sometimes, w fear, of extravagance, is still strong; and as he who lounges may read, as we sometimes walk down Broad-way and meet occasionally a billy in large pattern and gausly colors, with rich flounces in the morning, shoals of sham laces, mock furs and paste jewels, we are half driven out of our gallantry and tempted to believ there was some truth in the splenetic saying of the old father: "That woman is an animal who delights in finery." Such a class of women are doubtless essential to milliners, as, having no taste of their own, they usually submit to carry the forlorn hope of last year's finity under the delusive title of "the very latest fushion." Doubtless for such the celebrated St. Nicholas bridal-chamber was clad in such gaudy vul garity; though we are glad to record that-save of one occasion by a magnificent golden parvenu from San Francisco-its screnity has never been disturbed. With such ladies price is everything, becomingness of little moment. The other day we saw it mentioned that a lady of New-Orleans had given at the Crystal Palace of Paris no less a sum than £16,000 for her bridal dress.

We are ashamed to own that we had hitherto be lieved that this tawdriness was a vice of our young country, which a more refined taste would gradually correct. But in the last Paris journals we learn that whether from the spirit of excited competition of national vanity wounded by the gay recklessness of expenditure of our New-Orleans belle, we have been completely outstripped by Paris, hitherto the great autocrat of fashion, at least in the extravagance of "sheets" and "manchettes," By the fashion shie ioninals of that delightful capital we are informed that the Marchieness De Hallory "née Princesse de Chimay." who had been "a pratique" of Madame Bunel-Marechal, expended on her sheets the "prix fou" of \$221 a pair. The article on which this Princesse" expended her extravagant caprice is slight ly singular, and as its perfections could only be appreciated by one, or at best two persons, displays a singular disinterestedness of character. We have not inquired the cost of the sheets in the bridal chamber of the St. Nicholas Hotel, as we deemed such inquiry might be looked on as a prying impertinence, but we rather fancy the Marchioness De Hallory "née Prin-cesse de Chimay" has fairly thrown that magnificent institution into the shade.

When will women learn that to beauty and perfect tion of attire cost is but a small essential. A really well-dressed lady pays no attention to milliners' and shopmen's suggestions. She studies her own nature and points, and what is becoming to them. You do not say, on seeing her, "What a charming bonnet! "What a splendid shawl!" "How much did it cost? but without resting the eye on any one particular, whisper to yourself, "What a lady-like looking person! About her is no tinsel or trumpery, velvet bands, dia monds on the head and cameos on the stomach; but everything, to the smallest beading and most peeping border, is neat, delicate and fresh. Such a woman even when not handsome, is tenfold more attractive than the Marchioness de Hallory, "née Princesse de Chimay," though she may pay only three dollars a pair for her sheets and a couple of dollars for her manchettes."

MARINE AFFAIRS.

PACKETSHIP ST. DENIS.—One of our oldest ship-masters, and who had previously sailed in the St. Denis, informs us this morning that he is firm in his opinion that the vesseldid not founder, although the statements made by those who were rescued in the boat seem almost impossible to show any doubt but that the ship went down. His opinion is, that the vessel be-tween decks was completely filled with barrels of flour, tween decks was completely filled with barrels of flour, (near 4,000,) and the greater portion of the cargo was of a light nature, the ship was strong and staunch, and would float on the surface of the water for some time. We sincerely hope his opinion may prove true, and that the unfortunate people may still be rescued and restored to their friends. He also says that the ship was not overloaded, drawing nineteen feet of water when she sailed, and was in as good condition as any vessel that ever left this port. [Comm. Adv.]

The men who left the St. Dennis in the long-boat was rescalled have been mistaken in stating that they

may possibly have been mistaken in stating that they saw her go down; but certainly no one who read the detailed statements published yesterday in THE TEL-BUNE could entertain any reasonable hope that she outlived the storm; and the testimony of the survivmade by the commanders of outward-bound vessels of having passed large quantities of wrecked matter barrels of flour, water casks, &c., in the vicinity of

the coast. THE SHIP WILLIAM HITCHCOCK BURNT AT SEA .-Mesers. Bogart & Kneeland, agents for the ship William Hitchcock, received a telegraphic dispatch from Savannah yesterday announcing the destruction of that vessel by fire at sea. No particulars were given. The ship William Hitchcock, 700 tuns burthen, under the command of Capt. George Conway, sailed from the port of Savannah on the 24th of November, 1855, for Havre, with a cargo of 2,250 bales of cotton. The ship and freight money are insured in offices in Wall street, in this city-\$32,000 on the ship, and \$14,500 on the freight. She was built in 1848, at Damari cetta, Maine, and was considered a good ship.

The wrecking-schooner Eclipse, Capt. Ferris, fro Fire Island, with teas, silks, &c., from the wreck of the ship Stingray to the Board of Underwriters, arrived yesterday. She had on board the body of Mr. Robert R. Mitchell, formerly pilot on the E. K. Collins, which was brought here for interment. Capt. Ferris reports that the Coroner's inquest at that place was delayed in consequence of the difficulties encountered in finding some of the bodies. All, excepting the remains of Mr. Mitchell, were buried at Fin Island. The pilot-boat E. K. Collins has broken in two smidships, and one half of her is now inside the Inlet. The Eclipse brought three passengers-Capt. Drake of schooner Rio Grande, and son, and George Hoyt, a seaman belonging to the Stingray. The report of a schooner having gone ashore at Fire Island. and the captain and four mea lost, was incorrect, as the only vessels which went ashore there lately were the ship Stingray, schooner Rio Grande, and pilotboat E. K. Collins. The Stingray is no more, and the schooner Rio Grande, with her cargo, will be saved Capt. Kirby of the Stingray was to leave for this city yesterday. His health had improved, but he was sti very feeble. The passengers and crew of the shirt have arrived in the city. The cargo will all be saved though a large portion is much damaged.

THE SOUND STEAMERS .- The Fall River meamer Bay State did not arrive yesterday till 11 a. m., in con sequence of a slight detention in starting, which was occasioned by the freight train from Boston running off the track. The C. Vanderbilt and Commonwealth. from Stonington and Norwich, came in as usual at about 9 p'clock. They report the quantity of ice in the East River as being greatly diminished.

BRIG NEBRASKA AND SCHOONER MARY MANKIN. The brig Nebraska, before reported ashere at Hart Island, was got off on Wednesday. Also, schooner Mary Mankin, ashore in that vicinity was get off same day.

DEATH PENALTY FOR SLAVE STEALING IN VIR. ginia .- At a meeting of the citizens of Goodhland County, Va., on the 17th December, for the purpose of County, va., on the 17th December, for the purpose of scading delegates to the Southern Commercial Convention, a resolution was adopted advocating the death penalty for Slave stealing, confinement in the penitentiary for the attempt, and the admission of negro evidence against a suspected person. The resolutions also recommend arming the pilots in Chesapeake Bay, at the expense of the State, and authorizing them to earth suspected vessels.

THE CONFIDENCE MAN-MORE COM-PLAINTS.

The potoriety which the publication of the operations of Benj. Greer, the "Confidence Man," gave to him rendered him an object of great curiosity yester day, and dozens of persons called at the office of the Chief of Police to see him. Many of these visitors recognized him as the man who defrauded them; and when he was identified by any one of them, he would immediately "own up," and express great regret at the course he had pursued. His young wife called to see him during the day, and the meeting was truly affecting. He states that before he commenced hi neferious operations, he traversed the city in search of work, and offered to accept of any situation by which he could earn a support, but succeeded in getting nothing to do. He then fell into bad company, and soon learned that the loan-offices, as they are called would buy or loan on all kinds of property whether honestly obtained or otherwise-they taking the property at the lowest price the possessor would dispose of it, and asking no questions. This induced him to "go ahead," and he commenced his swindling operations. Some of these loan-office scamps yesterday refused to give up the jewelry sold them by Greer but unless they do so to-day, warrants for their arrest will be issued. Several affidavits against Greer were made by parties whom he had defrauded, but the only new victim before the magistrate was Mr. Ferdinand Thieriot of No. 30 Courtlandt street. This gentleman appeared by his clerk, who stated that on the 10th of October Greer got \$247 worth of watches and jewelry from him for a worthless bank-check. Other coplaints will probably be made against him to-day.

DESCENT UPON GAMBLING HOUSES.

ARREST OF SOME OF THEIR PROPRIETORS On Wednesday night Captain Walling of the Eight eenth Ward Police, with a force of the men under his charge, made a descent upon several gambling-house in Broadway and its vicinity, for the purpose of cap turing the proprietors, warrants for twenty of whom had been issued by the City Judge, and with a view of seizing their gambling apparatus. Upward of twenty establishments were called upon, but most of them appeared to have been recently vacated, the proprie tors having, it is thought, by some means b aware of the intended descent, and in some cases no even the apparatus was left.

At No. 283 Broadway the Police found the gamblers full blast, and here they arrested Wm. and Charles Norris, and a man named Dancer. At the corner of Canal street and Broadway the notorious Johnny Ling was arrested. At other places Michael Dalehanty Jas. O'Neil, and Chas. Fox were arrested. Severa other houses were next called at, but the birds had flown. As they were about entering the establishment of Hillman, No. 14 Murray street, they saw a carriage leave, as is supposed, with the banker and his apparatus, and no one was left to entertain or receive the visitors.

At the establishment of Charles Rensen, No. 8 Barclay street, they, however, found a different state of things. Eight venerable-looking men surrounded the table in silent and solemn contest for a "pile" in charge of the banker. So great was the interest felt in the game, that the sudden intrusion of the police was scarcely noticed until one of the officers seized the iaro-table and another the card-case used in shuffling This apparatus, which is worth about \$500, was take in charge by the police and conveyed to the Chief's ffice. The gamblers made no resistance, and finding their game up for the night, immediately sat down to a sumpteous supper. The warrant in possession of the officers only authorized the arrest of the proprietor but as the name it bore was "Rawdon" instead of Rensen, the arrest was not made.

Edward Pendleton, keeper of a gambling-house at No. 558 Broadway, was next arrested, and some of the apparatus was captured. All of the arrested were taken before the Court of Sessions and held to bail to answer. Their trials, with those of several other gamblers, were set down to take place Tuesday next.

FIRE IN WARREN STREET.

The alarm of fire in the Eighth District, yesterday afternoon, was occasioned by the burning of some shavings in the third-story back-room of the building No. 82 Warren street. The shavings were ignited by a child during the absence of her mother from the apartment. No damage was done to the building. FALSE ALARM.

The alarm of fire in the Fifth District last night was caused by the burning out of a sooty chimney in a building in Grand street, near Elizabeth. No damage was sustained.

PIRE IN BROOKLYN.

Yesterday morning shortly after 2 o'clock a fire broke out in a stable near the foot of Main street, owned by J. F. Brainard, which was consumed with contents. An adjoining shed, owned by the Union Ferry Company, was also consumed. A fine horse, owned by Mr. Brainard, was destroyed in the flames He was valued at about \$250. The loss, independent of the horse, is trifling. The fire was no doubt caused by an incendiary.

CITY ITEMS.

REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE .- A meeting of the Republican State Central Committee has been called by the Chairman for the 30th inst., at the Astor House in this city.

The Board of Aldermen had a meeting last evening. but little business presented itself, and an adjournment took place to Monday. The Commissioners of Repairs and Supplies renominated Jas. Irving, but the Board laid him on the table.

In consequence of an extra Opera night in Philadelphia, by the La Grange troupe, there will be no per formance at the Academy of Music on Friday night, as advertised.

The Merchants' and Clarks' Library Association (organized under a special charter) have organized their Library and Reading-room at No. 60 William street, up stairs. The Board of Officers are much gratified with the sympathy in the movement which has been so generally expressed both by merchants and clerks, and by the liberal pecuniary aid which enables them to place before the members upward of eight hundred volumes of valuable books, and to supply their tables with the leading American and Foreign Reviews and Magazines. It is presumed that both merchants and clerks will continue to manifest their interest in such a substantial manner that the institution may speedily attain a rank of which the commercial commu whose midst it is located, and for whose benefit it has been established, may justly be proud. Donations in money, or in books, maps and charts, will be thankfully received.

An interesting Sale by Auction will take place today at the Turkish Khavé, No. 625 Broadway. The collection of curious pipes of various kinds, rare tobacco, and all the appliances of Oriental epicureanism, is unique, and will afford an opportunity to the connoisseur, as well as the amateur, such as is seidem of-fered. Mr. Oscanyan, the proprietor of the Khavé, is the anthor of the elaborate article on tobacco and its uses, which appeared in print some time ago.

SUICIDE BY SHOOTING .- Last evening, about 9 o'clock, a man whose name, from papers found in his possession, is supposed to be William H. Perry, shot himself through the head with a pistol loaded with powder and ball, causing death almost instantly. The occurrence took place in Washington square, when the remains of the unfortunate man were conveyed to the Fifteenth Ward Station-House. An inquest will be held on the body to-day. The cause for his taking his life, or other particulars concerning him, could not be accertained.

Science of a Female at Belleven Hospitale-Agnes Carbot, a young woman, committed suicide, 00 Wednesday afternoon at Betterne Hospital by taking a tenspoonful of arsenic, and yesterday Coroner Perry held an inquest upon the body, when it appeared that about two years ago the deceased had been disap-pointed in a love affair, and from that time her actions had been very singular. At times she seemed to be weighed down with grief, and then again she was apparently very happy. Latterly poverty added to her miseries, and she had been heard to threaten her life. She often expressed a wish to die in the Bellevue Ho pital, and frequently, by complaining of being sick, gained admission to that Institution, but was always discharged cured. On Wednesday she was again ad mitted, and soon after swallowed the arsenic, which she had procured before going to the Hospital. She subsequently informed Dr. Pointer of what she had dene, and efforts were made to remove the poison but proved fruitless, and she died on the following morning. A verdict of "Suicide" was rendered by the Jury. The despayed was a native of Ireland, 21 years of age and was possessed of much beauty of person.

REAL ESTATE. - The following sale of real estate was made 'yesterday at the Merchants' Exchange by A. J. Bleecker & Co.: Lessehold property cor. of First avenue and Twenty first atreet, 263100.

Also, by A. H. Muller: House and Lot No. 33 Laurens street, 25x100..... Leasehold property No. 102 Barclay street, 27x73.

The attention of the charitable is called to the appeal of the Female Assistance Society. The Society is greatly in need of funds for the relief of the sick

poor of the city.

THE WEATHER.-It will be seen by my published THE WEATHER.—It will be seen by my published weather memorands that on Sunday, 18th, the temperature at 4 p.m. fell to the freezing point, and continued at that till 3 p.m., when it gradually became colder. From before 12 m. till after 3 p. m. of that day the temperature had been equilibriated—nine consecutive hours. Since then the highest temperatures have been below the freezing line, except a perturbation at 1 p.m. to-day of two degrees. The Cold Cycle to-morrow at 10 p.m. to-day of two degrees. The Cold Cycle to-morrow at 10 that it is not except that, and every 45 hours forward from that time, may be looked toward to with interest.

a. m. will reach the quarter or 90-hour line of the Great Gircle; that, and every 45 hours forward from that time, may be looked forward to with interest.

I notice some statements in the newspapers of higher temperature than 125 since Sunday. Such records are not accurate, and are contradicted by the state of the snow and ice, which remained unchanged in the shade at the very time that the temperature was reported to be at 35°.

The change which is a progress well be a great one. Anximmense body of ice is and has been accumulating in the rivers to be broken up by tide and wind, and the snow and ice on the land, resulting from a fall of 56 inches of snow since the 5th December, is to be narried off the ground by rain and thaw. Since the Cold Term commenced, on the 35th December, continguales have been heard of as occurring on two of the most remarkable days of the term, vitra at Ogdensburgh, N. Y., and vicinity on the 5th—the day of the great snow-storm—and at Winchester, Va., and several places in that neighborhood at shout 3 a m. of the 9th—the coldest day here. Thus it is seen, by clustering the records, that the cantinguakes do the work of the storms and the cold. They are also connected with every heated term. No great and sudden change of the temperature of the atmosphere occurs that is not immediately connected with earthquakes. My records give positive evidence of this. This Cold Term, commencing Dec. 35, between 6 and 7 a.m., will, at 6 p. m. of to-day, have continued 340 hours, which is one full circle and the half of a second circle, locialing the per turbations of Dec. 29-30, Jan. 2-3, 13 and 17.

Ice in pipes and gutters can be speedily melted by the free use of sait water, equal in density to the best pickle; it is also a very economical process. A bushel of sait disadved in water will do a great deal of work in melting ice, and the cheapert labor that can be employed.

Parken H. French in Court.—In the United

PARKER H. FRENCH IS COURT .- In the United States District Court, soon after its opening yesterday morning Mr. F. B. Cutting arose and having stated that he appeared it behalf of Col. Parker H. French, the Minister from Nicaragua

behalf of Col. Parker H. French, the Minister from Nicaragua to the United States Government, requested the District Attorney, Mr. McKeon, to inform him whether or not an indictment had been found by the Grand Jury against that gentleman.

The District-Attorney having declined to answer this question, Mr. Cutting proceeded to say that he had been assured from an official source that a bill had been found against Col. French some days previous, and was on file in the District-Attorney's effice; but for some reason inknown to himself or his client, it had not been made public, nor had any attempt been unade to arrest his client.

He asked whether this conduct was fair or courteous to the Minister of a friendly State, who was only not accredited because he had not yet presented his credentials to the Government!

Minister of a triently searched his credentials to the Government!

It might be deemed, from the covert manner in which this indictment had been found, and had been allowed to hirk upon the files of the Court, that there was an attempt on the part of our tiovarnment to injure or insult Col. French and the State which be represented; but he was unwilling to believe that there was any deliberate design to hold, it an ignomitation position, the representative of a country with which we were on irreduly terms, with which it was now peculiarly our object to cultivate peaceful relations.

If Colonie French has violated any laws of the country he stands ready for trial, but if he has not done so, why limit a man holding his position by indicting him in this extraordinary manner? Ever since his arrival in the country, mwapaper articles shandering his reputation have abounded, and he character has suffered in a corresponding degree.

These classifications properts are utterfly without foundation. Col. French belongs to one of the most respectable families in Kentucky, and both in California and Nicaragua has filled many high offices with distinguished ability and high integrity.

How unjust, then, to traduce in this manner the character of a man who has never for a moment endeavored to conceal his movements, and sgainst whom to formal complaint has ever been made.

a man who has never for a moment encavored to conceal mis movements, and against whom no formal complaint has ever been made.

He is the Embassador of Nicaragna. The Government of that State had a right to name an Embassador, it is the only Government in existence, and is so recognized by neighboring States, and it recordingly nominated Col. Fronch.

He has not yet presented his residentials, and our Government have not sylventher than the supertheless the Nicaraguan Minister, and the Government have no right to arrest him on any charge before he has presented his credentials and been refused recognition.

He utterly denies the charges brought against him, and challenges the Government to prove them. He asks that an indictment, if found, should not be suffered to remain concealed on the flest of the Clerk's office, and that he may have an immediate trial, whereby he may lave an opportunity to show what has been his character and course since his arrival in this country.

Mr. Cutting therefore moved that the indictment found agains Colonel French be taken from the files, and that he be allowed to plead at once to it and, as the Jury were already on the spot that an immediate trial be had.

The District-Atorney replied that Colonel French was not the Minister of Nicaragus, and that he had received official instructions from Washington to inform him that he could not be recognized as such.

that an immediate trial be had.

The District Attorney replied that Colonel French was not the Minister of Nicaragua, and that he had received official instructions from Washington to inform him that he could not be recognized as such.

The Court—He is not Minister until accredited as such.

Mr. McKeon asked why Mr. Dillingham, French's Secretary, snainst whom a similar indictment had been found, had not been brought up here on a shear a corpus, so that the whole matter might be fairly tested. That would be the mest manly course to pursue. He denied that any personal violentiveness had been exhibited by him or by any one connected with his office against Col. French.

Mr. Cutting reiterated his demand for an immediate frial, and said that he had been instructed by Col. French to say that he should waive all embassedorial privileges, and demand a trial like any ordinary cirilen.

The Court observed that an indictment against Col. French for violating the neutrality laws was on file in this Court, on which his counsel moved for an immediate trial. The Court observed that an indictment against Col. French for violating the neutrality laws was on the in this Court, on which his counsel moved for an immediate trial. The Court observed time for a trial.

That matter rested in the discretion of the District. Attorney. The Gourt could only interfere when it was manifest that a specify trial was denied the prisoner, and then could merely reduce his hall to a nominal amount, or release him on his personal recognizance. No order, therefore, could be made in the case.

The Court: The records of the Court show that the Grand Jury have presented a bill of indictment against Parker H. Freuch, in which it is in substance charged that he has set on foot an expedition against the Republic of Micaragua, contrary to the laws of the United States. Upon that indictment there has been no acrest, neither of it how that indictment there has been no acres, neither of the how the first has been no acres, neither of the purpose of arrest.

GURNEY & FREDRICKS, Photographiets, Mo. 349 Broadway, were swarded at the late Fair of the American Institute the First Premiums for Phorocoapen, vis: A Gold Medal for unretouched Photographs, and a Gold Medal for Pho-tographs finished in pastel and oil. The public are invited to examine the Prize Pictures at the Gallery, comes of Broad-way and Leonard-st.

GOLD MEDAL.—J. GURNEY, No. 349 Broadway, was awarded the first premium, the only Gold MEDAL for DAGUERAROTYPES, at the late Fair of the American Institute.

The only Medal awarded for DAGUERREGTYPES

The great Inhalvag Remedy for Asthma, Consumption, and all discuss of the Throat and Lungs—Da. Cur. 115 HYGRAES. Thomsands have been restored to beside the past year by the Hygeans. Principal Office, No. 365 Breadway, and sold by C. H. Eing, No. 126 Breadway, Price celly 5 is making. Da. Curris will be at the office deliy from 19 is a related, wheep, he may be consulted from of charge.

PHOTOGRAPHS.—The COLORED PHOTOGRAPHS

The Lampratype Pictures, on single glasses, cold and water, which the Ambrotype does not a material in durability, and in d heat, cold and water, which the Ambrotype loss sequencily the LAMPAATYR is susceptor in durability, this cy the patent pictures are behind. Look at them; and criticus; the field is open; hour to whom he Depto fo Art, No. 189 Broadway.

WILSON'S DANDELION COFFEE -For Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sick Headache, Billions and Liver Disease especially recommended to persons of delicate cons Sold by all respectable Apothecaries, and at the princip corner of 27th-st. and 3d-av.

[Advertisement.]
COOPER'S REFINED SHRED ISINGLASS—For Blane Mange, Table Jellies, &c. A good and chesp article for contectioners, hotel and family use. To be obtained in large or amail quantities, with directions for using, of the principal Grocers and Druggists throughout the United States. Persk Cooper, No. 17 Burling dip.

RICH DRESS GOODS AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.—S. A.M. E. TOWLF & CO., will offer THIS DAY, 25,000 words Plain, Plaid and Striped Silks at 4/s yard, worth 4/s, 10. Also, 25 cases De Laines at 1/s yard, worth 2/s. Columbia Hall, No. 23 Grand et.

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

THE SENTENCE OF GORMAN COMMUTED TO IMPRIS ONNENT FOR LIFE .- Michael Gorman, convicted and sentenced to be hanged on Friday, (to-day) 18th inst., has had his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life by the Governor of the State. The following is a

copy of the dispatch received by Sheriff Ryerson:

"Cosonses Hall, Albast, Dec. 17, 1856.

"Jerome Kyerson, esq., Sheriff of Kings Co., No.

2 Court street, Brooklyn:

"I have commuted the sentence of Gorman from death to imprisonment for life in the State Prison.

"MYRON H. CLARK."

Deputy-Sheriff Quevedo informed the prisoner of the Governor's decision, when he quietly remarked: "Good news, if it's true." He exhibited no emotion whatever.

THE COMMON COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS.-The following officers were elected by the Common Council

last evening:

Inspectors of Parements, Western District—Hicks Post, (Whg.) Henry Oswald, (Dem.)
Inspector of Parements, Kastern District—John Boton, (Dem.)
Assilant Keeper City Hall—Alex, McMullen, (Dem.)
Keeper of the City Park—Edward Wallace, (Dem.)
Scaler of Weights and Messers—John Cunningham, (Dem.)
There is a long list of officers yet to be elected, which will probably consume the time of another meeting.

EXPORTS OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.-The Brook lyn Chief of Police submitted his yearly and quarterly reports lyn Chief of Police submitted his yearly and quarterly reports as to the condition of the Police Department to the Common Council last evening. From the former statement it appears that during 1855, 11,235 persons were arrested for various of fences; 6,150 were accommodated with lodgings; 607 lost challen were returned to their parents; 6 persons were recond from drowing; 22 fires were extinguished by the police, and \$4,558,26 was taken from lodgers and drunken persons, and re-

from drowing; 22 fires were extinguished by the police, and \$4,858.26 was taken from lodgers and drunken persons, and returned to them: 1,756 days were lost by the police, being an average loss of 44 men per day; complaints were preferred against 40 members which rosulted in the diamissal from office of 5 men; 22 complaints were dismissed, and 4 were suspended from duty for a limited time. The following is a summary of the causes for which the arrests were made:

Assault and battery, 561; Assault on officers, 10; Assault with intent to kill, 7; Assault with threats, 13; Attempt at burglary, 9; Abandonment, 6; Bastardy, 2; Bigamy, 17; Disorderly conduct, 287; Drunk and disorderly, 769; Escaped convicts, 4; Embezziement, 1; Fighting in public streets, 73; False prefences, 5; False imprisonment, 1; Furfound driving, 1; Gross intoxication, 407; Grand laceoup, 32; Cambing, 6; Habitual drunkards, 32; Indecent exposure, 7; Assaulting females, 1; Illegal voting, 13; Insanity, 17; Keeping disorderly home, 8; Murdor, 2; Maisleus mischief, 2; Mayhem, 1; Petit larceny, 271; Passing countarfeit money, 7; Prostitutes, 5; Rape, 2; Receiving stoleng goods, 3; Seduction, 3; Suppicious persons, 57; Throwing stones, 2; Vagrants, 137; Violation city ordinances, 75—Total, 2,717.

The Quarterly Report ending December 31, 1855, shows 2,717 arres/s, being a decrease of 676 since previous quarter; 1,535 persons were rescend from drowning, and \$1,739 streets. Persons were rescend from drowning, and \$1,739 streets. Persons were rescend from drowning, and \$1,739 streets. Persons were rescended to their parents; 10 lines were extinguished by the police, 5 persons were rescended to their parents; 10 lines were extinguished by the police, 5 persons were rescended to their parents; 10 lines were extinguished by the police, 5 persons were rescended to the parents; 10 lines were extinguished by the police, 5 persons were rescended to the parents; 10 lines were extinguished by the police, 5 persons were rescended from drowning, and \$1,739 street

THE RECORDS OF KINGS COUNTY .- A meeting of THE RECEIBS OF ARROW OF THE SURFOGUE'S office yearerday, for the purpose of taking into consideration the condition of the records of Kings County and of the County Clerk's and City Clerk's offices. The records in all these offices were designated as in a miserable condition, and a remedy was domanded. Resolutions were adopted and the draft of an act submitted for presentation to the Legislature providing for the appointment of Commissioners of Record for the County of Kings, being starter to the act now in speration in New-York.

SUDDEN DEATH,—A woman named Emma M. Rogerson, residing at No. 33 Fulton avenue, where she kept a fancy store, died suddenly on Wednesday evening in consequence, a supposed of taking some powerful medicine for a disease with which she had long been afflicted. It appears, however, that she was subject to disease of the heart, which was the probable cause of her death. She was about 29 years of age and was formerly the wife of a man named Hanly, from whom she had been separated for some years. She had a relative named Willett residing near Keynort, N. J. Her effects were taken is charge by Coroner Redding, and her friends are requested to call at his office, City Hall, Brooklyn. The body will be preserved for a couple ofdays.

COMMITTED FOR BURGLARY .- Amos Bailey and Peter Ferguson were brought hefore Justice Smith yesterday on the charge of feloniously entering the store of Schwauwedel & Schriefer, Hunterfly Road, on Wednesday night last. They re committed in full for trial.

NEW-JERSEY ITEMS.

THE FIREWORKS CALAMITY .- The testimony in the case of the deaths of Catharine Haley and Catharine Kelly, in Jersey City, on Tuesday, showed that Mary Blakeman had a contract of small work to complete, which she took home without the authority of h J. G. & I. Edge, and got the deceased to assist her to complete it. The girls were not intoxicated as has been reported. The Jury, after deliberating four heurs upon the subject, gave the following verdict:

hours upon the subject, gave the following verdict:

"That they came to their death by suffocation, caused by an explosion of fireworks while employed in preparing the same at their residence, and the Jury give it as their opinion that the Messrs. Edge and other persons manufacturing fireworks, are censurable for allowing their combustible materials to be taken from their laboratory and made up in privata dwellings, thereby endangering the lives of citizens who are not aware of such work being carried on in their houses."

THE COURTS .- In the Hudson County Court the THE COURTS.—In the Hudsen County Court in Grand-Jory came in vesterday afternoon with twenty-one bills of indictment. Of the sixteen persons in jail swating the sc-tion of the Grand-Jury four are indicted. Of those indicted in Meeker, the Jersey City Watchman, on a charge of burglery; Edward Tucker, (colored), Charles Huntington, (colored), and Margaret Brainard were indicted for larceny. An effort was made before the Grand-Jury, to get Ald. Tyrrell indicted, but did not succeed. The evidence was probably the same as that upon which he was expelled from the Common Council.

MAN SCALDED TO DEATH.—On Seturday evening a terrible accident occurred at the Alcohol, Pine Oil, Varnish and Burning Fluid Mannisctry of Missers. Porteus & Phillips, asset the Rancocas Creek, in Camdon County, by which a man named John Steinberger lost his life, and another workman was sectionally injured. While the men were at work an explosion took place in the still, and the boiling fluid was thrown in large quantities over the establishment, a portion of which tell upon Mr. Steinberger, and acadded him in such a dreadful manner that his hart tell from his held, and the skin peeled off his face. He survived but a short time after the accident.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS-JAN. 17.-Before

Judge Carson.

At the opening of Court the following persons, who had been arrested on warrants charging them with keeping Gambling Houses, were arraigned: Elder Norris and Matthew Dancer, who, it is alleged, keep a house of this description at No. 283 Bowery; John Lyng, whose house is at the corner of Broadway and Canal street; Michael Delahanty, James O'Neil. Charles Fox and - Kipp, at the corner of Amos and West streets. These parties, with the exception of Lyng, were each held to bail in the sum of \$500 to answer the charge against them. Lyng was held in \$5,000 to answer.

Davis Bell and two Spaniards, who had been arrested on a charge of gambling at the house of Wm. Whiteside, No. 676 Broadway, were discharged.

TRIAL OF JAMES HUDSON FOR MUNDER. James Hudson (colored) was placed at the ber, charged with the murder of Robert Hamilton, also colored, by stabbing him in the neck with a checo-knife, in the month of July last, at a grocery on the corner of Chrystie and Delancy streets. The prisoner in this case was tried in December last, but the Jury were unable to agree upon a verdict, and were dis-charged. The evidence elicited was the same on this trial as that taken on the former one, and was fally published a that time. Some additional cridence is,